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Book Reviews

Euclidis Phaenomena et scripta musica edidit HENRICUS MENGE.
Fragmenta collegit et disposuit J. L. HEIBERG (*Euclidis opera omnia* edd. J. L. HEIBERG et H. MENGE, Vol. VIII). Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1916. Pp. liv+292. M. 6.60.

After publishing the *Elementa*, *Data*, *Optica*, and *Catoptrica*, the veteran editor Heiberg, who has done so much to make the works of the Greek mathematicians easily accessible to the modern student of ancient science, and his colleague Menge, issue the remaining works connected with the name of Euclid, the *Phaenomena*, the *Sectio Canonis*, and the *Introductio Harmonica*, together with Euclidean fragments drawn from many Greek and one Arabic source. The three treatises named are furnished with a Latin version, which will prove a convenience to many workers in the history of mathematics; there are also published scholia on the *Phaenomena* and an appendix in which a second Greek recension (*b*) of certain parts of this treatise is given.

The eighth volume of Euclid belongs chiefly to Menge, who has examined anew the manuscripts of the writings here printed and gives an account of them in the prolegomena to the volume. In the musical works he has chosen to follow the text of C. von Jan, as published in the Teubner Library in the collection *Musici scriptores graeci* (1895). Menge, however, devotes part of his prolegomena to a discussion of their text and authenticity; the *Sectio Canonis* he believes to be Euclidean, but probably excerpted by a later, less talented editor from a larger Euclidean *Elements of Harmony*, while with most critics he utterly rejects the *Introductio Harmonica*. The text of the work on astronomy, the *Phaenomena*, is now newly studied and brought into convenient form within the reach of public or private libraries which could not afford or could not obtain the early editions; previously this work had to be consulted in translation or in Gregory's folio edition (Oxford, 1703).

That ancient science had its lighter side is shown by the following epigram connected with the name of Euclid, which has come down to us with many others of a similar nature. It is printed on pages 286-87 of the present volume:

A mule and an ass once went on their way with burdens of wine-skins;
Oppressed by the weight of her load, the ass was bitterly groaning.
The mule, observing her grievous complaints, addressed her this question:
"Mother, why do you murmur, with tears, for a maiden more fitting?
For give me one measure of wine, and twice your burden I carry;
But take one measure from me, and still you will keep our loads equal."
Tell me the measure they bore, good sir, geometry's master.

FRANK EGGLESTON ROBBINS

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN